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PATENT APPLICATION  
10/044,076



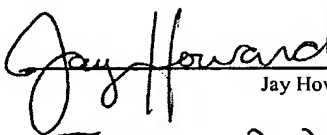
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: H. Ufuk Alpay et al.  
Serial No.: 10/044,076  
Date Filed: January 11, 2002  
Group Art Unit: 1756  
Examiner: Mohamedulla, Saleha R.  
Title: **DAMAGE RESISTANT PHOTOMASK  
CONSTRUCTION**

**MAIL STOP – NON FEE AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV334588751US addressed to: Mail Stop – Non Fee Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

  
Jay Howard  
February 2, 2004

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the Office Action mailed November 6, 2003, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments set forth below and request favorable action thereon.

**Amendments to Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.